

In the Specification

In the Background of the Invention section please replace the second paragraph on page 2 with the following paragraph:

Various oils have been used as sources of omega-3 and omega-6 fatty acids in animal feed. The lactational responses of dairy cows fed unsaturated fat from extruded soybeans or sunflower seeds have been studied (Schingoethe, *et al.*, 1996); flaxseed oil has been used in animal feed to increase the number of live births in sows, to increase the number of live weaned pigs, and to allow for earlier breeding (U.S. Pat. No. 5,110,592); conjugated linoleic acid has been used in animal feed to increase fat firmness, shelf life, and meat quality (U.S. Pat. No. 6,060,087); linseed oil and corn oil have been used in animal feed as a source of omega-6 fatty acids to increase the number of live births and to increase the number of weaned rats (Quackenbush, *et al.*, 1942); salmon oil has been used in pet food to reduce damage to skin and mucosa in animals, such as dogs and cats, where the animal is afflicted with cancer and is subjected to radiation therapy (U.S. Pat. No. 6,015,798); the effects of linseed oil, and omega-3 fatty acids in particular, on increased sperm fertility and female fertility, applicable to cattle, sheep, and rats, has been studied (Abayasekara, *et al.*, 1999); modified tall oil supplemented swine animal feed has been used to improve the carcass characteristics of swine and to increase daily weight gain (U.S. Pat. No. 6,020,377); the use of salmon oil to increase sperm fertility in roosters using a 1.5:1 ratio of omega-6 fatty acids to omega-3 fatty acids has been studied (Blesbois, *et al.*, 1997), and the effect of dietary fatty acids on lactic acid bacteria associated with the epithelial mucosa has been studied (Ringo, *et al.*, 1998).

In the Claims

Please cancel claims 21-22, 24, 26-40, 42-59, 63-64, 66, and 68 without prejudice.

Please amend claims 1, 19-20, 23, 25, 41, 60-62, 65, 67, 69, and 70 as follows:

1. (Amended) A method of increasing the reproductive performance of a female swine, comprising the step of administering to the female swine a feed composition comprising marine animal products containing omega-3 fatty acids or esters thereof that serve as a source of metabolites in the female swine to improve reproductive performance of the female swine.